A consistent appeal of the Vilas Neighborhood has been the small-town atmosphere created by area businesses. Many of the businesses are within walking distance of most residents. It has been said that the life of the neighborhood is related to the businesses along Monroe and Park Streets. The neighborhood is bordered by Edgewood schools, the Vilas zoo, Randall Avenue, Regent Street, and Monroe Street.

Please
Please respect the privacy of the owners who have graciously opened their homes for you to visit. Be sure to stay in the areas that have been opened to the public. Do not handle any personal belongings.

Sponsors
Feeling hungry after an afternoon of walking around? Visit any of the neighborhood restaurants on Monroe and Regent Streets.

Moozie's, at 1025 Monroe Street, is offering tea between the hours of 1:00 and 4:30. After the event, tour home owners will be dining at Urban Pizza, 1501 Monroe Street.

Where do you start with a remodeling project? The Vilas and Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Associations have collected critiques of contractors they have used for a variety of project types. These are stored in the Monroe-Street library in 3-ring notebooks on the reference shelf.

Historic Madison, Inc. presents
The 23rd Alternate Parade of Homes
October 10, 1999
Time: 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Vilas Neighborhood
Oakland Heights section

The Vilas neighborhood evolved out of the Wingra Park and Oakland Heights Additions to Madison. The Wingra Park Addition was platted in 1889 and was the first of Madison's "suburbs" for people wishing to move away from the increasingly crowded isthmus. The land was originally owned by William Fish, one of Madison's most successful building contractors. When he was unable to sell many of the lots to prospective home owners he sold these remaining lots in 1893 to H.C. Adams, H.C. Thom and C.E. Bross who developed the properties. In 1897 the electric streetcar line was extended down Breese Terrace to Monroe Street, and these lots became more desirable because of easy access to public transportation.

In 1896 Edward Riley purchased land adjacent to the Wingra Park Addition and formed the Oakland Heights Addition. Both the lot size and building size in the Oakland Heights Addition were somewhat smaller than in the Wingra Park Addition, but local residents and outsiders considered both additions as one. These were annexed by the city in 1903 and the variety of architectural styles makes this region one of Madison's most interesting.

For more details, see "The Greenbush-Vilas Neighborhood: A Walking Tour" by Timothy Hegland, a Madison Heritage Publication.
1. 1628 Madison Street
This house was built in 1917 in the English cottage style and is somewhat unusual for the neighborhood in that it is faced in brick. It was built by Edward Christ and Mary Paekin as a home and office for their carpentry and contracting business. The kitchen has been recently remodeled, but much of the rest of the interior has been retained in the original style of the house. The newly landscaped backyard provides an isolated area of tranquility in the heart of the city.

2. 1628 Madison Street
Built in 1917, the bungalow home has had many alterations over the years. When the present owners bought the house in 1967, it had been used for student housing for about 20 years. The living room remodeled as far as it was purchased. The kitchen, dining room, bathroom and back porch addition have been remodeled. Still a work in progress, much of the first floor has been gutted and updated for modern needs.

Walk by 1628 Madison, the former bungalow home of Florence and Owen Wilde. Wilde, a student of John R. Commons, went on to draft this country's Social Security Administration Act under the Roosevelt administration.

Walk by 1625 Jefferson, the Leslie and Grace Bund Houses. Built in 1937, Bund was then the clerk of the L.A. Board of Elephants. Thoms was the first home built in Oakland Heights. The house lost smaller Queen Anne-style houses of the day, but its Dutch Colonial gambrel roof with its Palladian window groups looked to the future revival styles. The house appears in the Higgstown brochure.

3. 1514-Jefferson Street
This gambrel-roofed building was erected in 1914. Much of the first floor is original, including the foyer, linear pocket doors and leaded glass window facing the street. The fireplace has been reproduced as closely as possible using photographs of the original. The original owners' fastidiously documented both the interior and exterior in photographs and many of these are reproduced and on display.

4. 1453 Mound Street
This Victorian house was built in 1888 when much of the area was still undeveloped. It was expanded with an addition to the rear in the 1920s. At some point it was converted into a two-flat for students. The current owner purchased it 25 years ago and renovated it back to a single-family home. The interior is decorated with many Victorian features in keeping with the building's architectural style and includes interesting local-stained glass window panels and many decorative interior details.

Walk for Madison's newest park, Bear Mound Park. Bear Mound Park received its sign in September of this year. It is on the 1400 block of Mound between Drakes and Mound streets. It includes a nearly 200-year-old oak tree, an egret roost, oakdale rocks, and a lovely place to sit. Neighbors began to create native prairie sections on the mound this year. Unfortunately, heavy summer rains and hungry birds destroyed most of the planted seeds.

5. 1527 Villa Avenue
This Georgian, pre-World War II design was designed by Law and Law. It was built during 1919 and 1920 and was originally owned by Dr. and Mrs. Daniel. The second owners have lived here since 1971. The house had been remodeled as part of the World War II II. The house contains many art works by three generations of family artists and family collectors from the turn of the century. The current owners also have a before-and-after remodeling photo book you can see before leaving the home. Be sure to enjoy the garden on your way out of the house.

Walk west on Grant for a look to see Cora Tubbs's former home at 1206 Grant. She was the only woman architect known to have designed buildings in Madison prior to WWII. This house was built in 1910, combining the American Craftsman and Craftsman style. Four others in the neighborhood also completed Mr. Tubbs's work for their homes. Her house can be seen in the Higgstown brochure.

6. 1726 Villa Avenue
This Queen Anne house was built in 1884 and was one of the first in the neighborhood. It was built for Laura and Prof. Edward Kramer, a world-renowned pharmaceutical chemist and dean of the Pharmacy School from 1902-1935. It had a hand in the design of the house and specified that each room should have two exposures. The house has been restored to its basic original design. The house also originally had a "pharmacy garden" where Dr. Kramer's studied plants of medicinal value. The garden was later moved to Camp Randall and then to the area of what is now Eagle Heights.

7. 1011 Grant Street
Consider Madison architect Claude and Stacks designed and built this Tudor revival house in 1909 for Maude and Prof. Adam Miller. Some changes have been made; the former library is now a dining room and the former dining room is now a family room. The interior has been maintained including the cherry wood cabinetry, the woodwork around the foci point mural, the window seating as well as the original fixtures in the kitchen and upstairs bathroom. The interesting stone patio in the front yard dates from the 1930s. The original blueprint elevations drawings are on display.

Walk by 1006 Guest, the August Cornelius and Della Jonas house, built in 1911, for a comparison of architectural styles. It was also designed by Cliveden and Stack and is a textbook example of Prairie Design. Lerner was an insurance executive for the Central Life Assurance Company's Wisconsin office. He was also a one-time president of the Madison Arts, currently the Associated Bank on Monroe Street. This house is in the Higgstown brochure.

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Name ___________________________
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Please check membership type desired:
- household $25
- contributing $50
- sustaining $75
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- benefactor $250

Special offer:
Buy a copy of Historic Madison's latest book, Biographies to Bookleggers, a biography of some individuals buried in resurrection cemetery, and receive a membership for only $10 more!!! $35

Day of event:
Books may be picked up the day of the tour. Inquire at the Monroe Street library table; leave your check and membership form there.

Afterwards:
Make your check payable to Historic Madison, Inc. and mail to PO Box 2721, Madison 53701-2721. If you also wish to receive the cemetery book, please add $4.30 for postage.